

*CLAIM AMENDMENTS*

Please cancel claims 12, 53, 76-78, and 80-85, without prejudice.

1. (Currently Amended) A positively charged microporous membrane comprising a porous substrate and a crosslinked coating ~~having pendant positively charged groups including a polymer backbone and pendant positively charged groups, wherein each pendant positively charged group is directly linked to the backbone through a polar spacer group by a single bond.~~
2. (Original) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 1, wherein the porous substrate is hydrophilic.
3. (Previously Presented) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 1, wherein the crosslinked coating comprises a crosslinked polyamine.
4. (Original) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 3, wherein the polyamine includes a polyalkyleneamine.
5. (Previously Presented) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 1, wherein the crosslinked coating includes a diallylamine copolymer.
6. (Previously Presented) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 1, wherein the crosslinked coating includes an acrylic copolymer.
7. (Previously Presented) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 1, wherein the crosslinked coating is prepared by crosslinking a composition comprising a diallylamine copolymer having epoxy groups and pendant positively charged groups, a polyalkyleneamine, and an amine reactive compound having a positively charged group.
8. (Previously Presented) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 1, wherein the crosslinked coating includes a copolymer comprising diallylamine, an acrylic monomer having a quaternary ammonium group, and a crosslinking agent.
9. (Previously Presented) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 1, wherein the crosslinked coating includes an acrylic polymer having epoxy groups and

pendant positively charged groups and a copolymer comprising a polyamine and a glycidyl compound having a positively charged group.

10. (Original) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 4, wherein the polyalkyleneamine is polyethyleneimine.

11. (Previously Presented) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 1, wherein the positively charged group includes a quaternary ammonium group.

12. (Canceled).

13. (Currently Amended) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein the spacer group includes one or more moieties selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, amino, aminoalkyl, amido, alkylamido, ester, and alkoxyalkyl.

14. (Currently Amended) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim ~~12~~ 1, wherein the spacer group includes one or more moieties selected from the group consisting of hydroxyalkyl, alkylamino, hydroxyalkylaminoalkyl, hydroxyalkylaminoalkyl hydroxyalkyl, alkylaminoalkyl, and alkylamido.

15. (Currently Amended) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim ~~5~~ 6, wherein ~~the diallylamine copolymer or the~~ acrylic copolymer includes a polymerized acrylic monomer.

16. (Original) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 15, wherein the acrylic monomer is an acryloylaminoalkyl or acryloyloxyalkyl monomer.

17. (Original) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 5, wherein the diallylamine copolymer includes one or more polymerized nitrogen containing comonomers.

18. (Original) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 17, wherein the one or more polymerized nitrogen containing comonomers are selected from the group consisting of comonomers carrying quaternary ammonium groups and comonomers carrying tertiary amino groups.

19. (Original) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 8, wherein the crosslinking agent is an N-(alkoxymethyl)acrylamide.
20. (Previously Presented) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 8, wherein the acrylic monomer is an acryloylaminoalkyl or acryloyloxyalkyl trialkylammonium halide.
21. (Original) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 6, wherein the acrylic copolymer comprises a polymerized monomer selected from the group consisting of glycidylalkylacrylate, methacryloyloxyalkyl trialkylammonium halide, and methacryloylaminoalkyl trialkylammonium halide.
22. (Original) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 6, wherein the acrylic copolymer is linked to a polyamine.
23. (Original) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 22, wherein the polyamine is pentaethylenehexamine.
24. (Previously Presented) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 10, wherein the positively charged group is linked to the polyethyleneimine through a reaction with a glycidyl compound having a positively charged group.
25. (Previously Presented) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 11, wherein the coating is crosslinked through a reaction with a polyglycidyl compound.
26. (Previously Presented) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 1, wherein the porous substrate comprises a substrate polymer.
27. (Original) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 26, wherein the substrate polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyaromatics, polysulfones, polyolefins, polystyrenes, polyamides, polyimides, fluoropolymers, polycarbonates, polyesters, cellulose acetates, and cellulose nitrates.
28. (Original) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 27, wherein the substrate polymer is a polysulfone.

29. (Currently Amended) A positively charged microporous membrane having a protein binding capacity of about 25 mg/ml or greater comprising a porous substrate and a crosslinked coating ~~that includes~~ including a pendant positively charged group polymer backbone and pendant positively charged groups, wherein each pendant positively charged group is directly linked to the backbone through a polar spacer group by a single bond.

30. (Original) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 29, wherein the protein is bovine serum albumin or immunoglobulin.

31. (Previously Presented) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 29, wherein the porous substrate is hydrophilic.

32. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a positively charged microporous membrane comprising a porous ~~support~~ substrate and a diallylamine copolymer having pendant positively charged groups directly linked to the diallylamine copolymer through polar spacer groups, the process comprising:

- (a) providing a porous substrate;
- (b) contacting the porous substrate with a composition comprising a diallylamine copolymer having epoxy and pendant positively charged groups, a polyalkyleneamine, and an amine reactive compound having a positively charged group;
- (c) curing the substrate obtained in (b) to obtain the positively charged membrane; and
- (d) optionally, extracting the membrane obtained in (c) to remove extractable residue therein.

33. (Original) The process of claim 32, wherein the polyalkyleneamine comprises pentaethylenehexamine.

34. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 32, wherein the amine reactive compound is a glycidyl trialkylammonium halide.

35. (Original) The process of claim 32, wherein the diallylamine copolymer includes an acrylic monomer.

36. (Original) The process of claim 35, wherein the diallylamine copolymer is prepared by a process comprising (a) polymerizing a mixture of diallylamine and methacryloylaminopropyl

trimethylammonium chloride to obtain a polymer and (b) contacting the polymer obtained in (a) with epichlorohydrin.

37. (Currently Amended) The process of claim ~~36~~ 32, wherein the diallylamine copolymer includes one or more nitrogen containing comonomers.

38. (Original) The process of claim 37, wherein the nitrogen containing comonomers are selected from the group consisting of comonomers carrying quaternary ammonium groups and comonomers carrying tertiary amino groups.

39. (Original) The process of claim 37, wherein the nitrogen containing comonomers are selected from the group consisting of diallyldimethylammonium chloride, dimethylaminopropyl methacrylamide, methacryloylaminopropyl trimethylammonium chloride, and combinations thereof.

40. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 34, wherein the polyalkyleneamine comprises pentaethylenehexamine.

41. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 40, wherein the ~~coating~~ composition includes a crosslinking agent.

42. (Original) The process of claim 41, wherein the crosslinking agent is a polyglycidyl compound.

43. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a positively charged microporous membrane comprising a porous ~~support~~ substrate and a diallylamine copolymer having pendant positively charged groups linked to the diallylamine copolymer through polar spacer groups, the process comprising:

- (a) providing a porous substrate;
- (b) contacting the substrate with a copolymer comprising a diallylamine, an acrylic monomer having a positively charged group, and a crosslinking agent;
- (c) curing the substrate obtained in (b) to obtain the microporous membrane; and
- (d) optionally, extracting the membrane obtained in (c) to remove extractable residue therein.

44. (Original) The process of claim 43, wherein the crosslinking agent is an N-(isobutoxymethyl)-acrylamide.

45. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 43, wherein the acrylic monomer having a positively charged group is an acrylamide or acrylic ester having a positively charged group.

46. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a positively charged microporous membrane comprising a porous ~~support~~ substrate and an acrylic polymer having pendant positively charged groups directly linked to the acrylic polymer through polar spacer groups, the process comprising:

- (a) providing a porous substrate;
- (b) contacting the substrate with a composition comprising an acrylic copolymer having pendant positively charged groups and epoxy groups and a polyalkyleneamine modified to have pendant positively charged groups;
- (c) curing the substrate obtained in (b) to obtain the microporous membrane; and
- (d) optionally, extracting the membrane obtained in (c) to remove extractable residue therein.

47. (Original) The process of claim 46, wherein the acrylic copolymer comprises a glycidylalkylacrylate and a methacryloyloxyalkyl or methacryloylaminoalkyl trialkylammonium halide.

48. (Original) The process of claim 46, wherein the polyalkyleneamine comprises a pentaethylenehexamine.

49. (Original) The process of claim 48, wherein the pentaethylenehexamine is a pentaethylenehexamine which has been modified by glycidyl trimethylammonium chloride.

50. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a positively charged microporous membrane comprising a porous substrate and a crosslinked coating comprising a polyalkyleneamine ~~having~~ comprising pendant positively charged groups, wherein each pendant positively charged group is directly linked to the polyalkyleneamine through a polar spacer group by a single bond, the process comprising:

- (a) providing a porous substrate;
- (b) contacting the substrate with a coating composition comprising a crosslinking agent and the polyalkyleneamine;

- (c) curing the substrate obtained in (b) to obtain a positively charged membrane; and
- (d) optionally, extracting the membrane obtained in (c) to remove extractable residue therein.

51. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 32, wherein the positively charged group is quaternary ammonium.

52. (Original) The process of claim 50, wherein the polyalkyleneamine comprises polyethyleneimine.

53. (Canceled)

54. (Currently Amended) The process of claim ~~53~~ 50, wherein the spacer group includes one or more moieties selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, amino, aminoalkyl, amido, alkylamido, ester, and alkoxyalkyl.

55. (Currently Amended) The process of claim ~~53~~ 50, wherein the spacer group includes one or more moieties selected from the group consisting of hydroxyalkyl, alkylamino, hydroxyalkylaminoalkyl, hydroxyalkylaminoalkyl hydroxyalkyl, alkylaminoalkyl, and alkylamido.

56. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 52, wherein the ~~cationic~~ positively charged group is linked to the polyethyleneimine by reaction with a glycidyl compound having a positively charged group.

57. (Original) The process of claim 56, wherein the glycidyl compound is glycidyl trimethylammonium chloride.

58. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 50, wherein the coating is crosslinked by a polyglycidyl compound.

59. (Original) The process of claim 58, wherein the polyglycidyl compound is a polyalkyleneglycol polyglycidylether.

60. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 32, wherein the extraction is carried out in water.

61. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 32, wherein the porous substrate is hydrophilic.
62. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 32, wherein the porous substrate comprises a polymer.
63. (Original) The process of claim 62, wherein the porous substrate comprises a polymer selected from the group consisting of polyaromatics, polysulfones, polyolefins, polystyrenes, polyamides, polyimides, polycarbonates, polyesters, fluoropolymers, and cellulosic polymers.
64. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 32, wherein the porous substrate comprises polysulfone.
65. (Previously Presented) The membrane prepared by the process of claim 32.
66. (Previously Presented) A device comprising the positively charged microporous membrane of claim 1.
67. (Previously Presented) A process for separating negatively charged material from a fluid, the process comprising placing the fluid in contact with the positively charged microporous membrane of claim 1 so as to adsorb or absorb the negatively charged material to the membrane.
68. (Original) The process of claim 67, wherein the negatively charged materials include biomolecules.
69. (Original) The process of claim 68, wherein the biomolecule is selected from the group consisting of polypeptides, amino acids, nucleic acids, and combinations thereof.
70. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 67, wherein the negatively charged material includes nucleic acids, endotoxins, host cell proteins, viruses, or lipids.
71. (Original) The process of claim 67, wherein a nucleic acid is separated from a fluid comprising nucleic acid and protein.



72. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 70, wherein the host cell protein is an antibody.

73. (Original) The process of claim 70, wherein the virus is an adenovirus.

74. (Currently Amended) A positively charged microporous membrane having a nucleic acid binding capacity of about 5 mg/ml or more comprising a porous substrate and a crosslinked coating that includes ~~a pendant positively charged group a polymer backbone and~~ pendant positively charged groups, wherein each pendant positively charged group is directly linked to the backbone through a polar spacer group by a single bond.

75. (Currently Amended) A positively charged microporous membrane comprising a porous substrate and a crosslinked coating comprising an acrylic copolymer ~~having a backbone and~~ pendant positively charged groups, wherein each positively charged group is attached to one atom of the backbone.

76-78 (Canceled).

79. (Original) The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 75, wherein the positively charged group includes a quaternary ammonium group.

80-85 (Canceled).

86. The positively charged microporous membrane of claim 8, wherein the copolymer includes a diallyldialkylammonium halide.

Please add the following claims:

87. (New) A positively charged microporous membrane comprising a porous substrate and a crosslinked coating having pendant positively charged groups comprising an acrylic copolymer, wherein the acrylic copolymer comprises a polymerized acrylic monomer selected from an acryloylaminoalkyl or acryloyloxyalkyl monomer.

88. (New) A positively charged microporous membrane comprising a porous substrate and a crosslinked coating having pendant positively charged groups, wherein the crosslinking

coating comprising a diallylamine copolymer, an acrylic monomer having a quaternary ammonium group, and a crosslinking agent, and wherein the crosslinking agent is an N-(alkoxymethyl)acrylamide.

89. (New) A positively charged microporous membrane comprising a porous substrate and a crosslinked coating having pendant positively charged groups, wherein the crosslinked coating includes comprising a diallylamine copolymer, an acrylic monomer having a quaternary ammonium group, and a crosslinking agent, and wherein the acrylic monomer is an acryloylaminoalkyl or acryloyloxyalkyl trialkylammonium halide.

90. (New) A positively charged microporous membrane comprising a porous substrate and a crosslinked coating having pendant positively charged groups, wherein the crosslinked coating includes an acrylic copolymer comprising a polymerized monomer selected from the group consisting of glycidylalkylacrylate, methacryloyloxyalkyl trialkylammonium halide, and methacryloylaminoalkyl trialkylammonium halide.

91. (New) A positively charged microporous membrane comprising a porous substrate and a crosslinked coating having pendant positively charged groups, wherein the crosslinked coating includes an acrylic copolymer linked to pentaethylenehexamine.